

we could all agree on here in Congress, and they will help businesses create the jobs that people need right way in our districts.

It's time we do what the people sent us here to do in Washington. It's time to pass a jobs bill here in the House of Representatives.

HONORING BARBARA MIKKELSEN

(Mr. GOSAR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to recognize Barbara Mikkelsen, a very special woman and a hometown hero doing extraordinary work for our military veterans in Prescott, Arizona.

Barbara joined U.S.VETS in 2004 and has led their effort to provide affordable housing, quality health care, and job training to the homeless veterans of the Quad Cities of northern Arizona. Nationally, U.S.VETS feeds, clothes, shelters, and helps get back to work over 2,000 veterans every year.

As the Prescott site director for U.S.VETS, the largest service provider for homeless veterans in the United States, Barbara was awarded the 2011 national award for Site Director of the Year. Additionally, the Arizona Department of Veterans Services recognized Barb with an award of recognition and appreciation.

Barb has proven herself a dedicated and inspiring advocate. I applaud her for going above and beyond the call of duty. I congratulate her and am proud of the wonderful service to our military men and women in Arizona's First Congressional District. I challenge others to follow her exemplary leadership and give back to their community in this time of great national need.

SERVICEMEMBERS, MILITARY FAMILIES AND BUDGET CUTS

(Mrs. DAVIS of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak in support of our servicemembers and their families. For the last 10 years, our all-volunteer force has graciously and without complaint done all we have asked for them. They have deployed, many more than once, leaving their friends and families here at home to go fight on foreign soil.

And today, during this time of budget constraints and upcoming cuts, we must remember the sacrifice our service men and women, as well as their families, have made. We cannot balance our budget by cutting the benefits they have earned and deserve.

I agree that all aspects of government spending must be looked at and considered for possible cuts. In this era, where our budget is so out of balance, no one entity can be spared. However, we have to make smart cuts and

ensure that our fighting men and women are taken care of. We need to look at weapons programs that no longer meet our needs, redundancies that can be streamlined and other programs that should be more efficient.

I encourage my colleagues on the supercommittee to fight for our brave men and women by protecting the benefits they so rightly deserve.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 2954

Mr. BROOKS. Mr. Speaker, due to a clerical error, I was inadvertently made a cosponsor on the wrong bill. As such, I ask unanimous consent to remove myself as a cosponsor of H.R. 2954.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GOSAR). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Alabama?

There was no objection.

EPA REGULATORY RELIEF ACT OF 2011

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks on the legislation and to insert extraneous materials on H.R. 2250.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Kentucky?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 419 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 2250.

□ 0916

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 2250) to provide additional time for the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to issue achievable standards for industrial, commercial, and institutional boilers, process heaters, and incinerators, and for other purposes, with Mr. DENHAM in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered read the first time.

The gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. WHITFIELD) and the gentleman from California (Mr. WAXMAN) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky.

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Since 2009, the Environmental Protection Agency has rolled out a long list of regulations that are really unprecedented in their cost and complexity. The impacts on jobs, energy prices, and America's industrial competitiveness in the world are extremely serious.

But of all these rules, the Boiler MACT rule, which we will be discussing today, stands out in that it will apply to a very wide variety of employers. Not only will industrial facilities be impacted, but also colleges, universities, hospitals, government buildings, and large commercial properties.

The impact on jobs projected is staggering, but the cost will be borne by all of us in the form of higher tuition costs, higher hospital bills, higher rent, as well as higher prices for manufactured goods. Just about everyone will be adversely impacted either directly or indirectly.

The good news is that we can reduce emissions from boilers without causing economic harm. The EPA Regulatory Relief Act, H.R. 2250, accomplishes this goal by taking a sensible, middle ground, balanced approach; and I would like at this time to thank Mr. BUTTERFIELD of North Carolina, as well as Mr. GRIFFITH of Virginia, for their sponsorship of this bipartisan bill.

A study conducted by IHS Global Insight, a respected research company, found that the rules that we are talking about today would impose total costs of over \$14 billion and put at risk 230,000 jobs in America at a time when we already have a 9.1 percent unemployment rate. My home State of Kentucky, under the analysis, would face estimated costs of \$183 million and 2,930 potential job losses. Twenty-five other States are hit even harder. That includes at least 10,000 jobs estimated for North Carolina, Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, and Virginia, as well as over 5,000 job losses for Minnesota, Wisconsin, Alabama, Tennessee, Iowa, New York, Illinois, Maine, Georgia, Florida, Louisiana, and Arkansas.

□ 0920

These boiler rules largely target coal-fired boilers and thus discourage the use of this energy source which, by the way, today provides about 50 percent of all of the electricity produced in America.

I should add that the problems with EPA's boiler rules are not the sole fault of the agency. These rules, like many today, are being rushed out the door to comply with a court-ordered deadline. EPA asked for additional time, but their request was refused by the courts. EPA then published the rules by the deadline, but immediately announced that it was reconsidering portions of them because they were so complicated. However, this is not an adequate solution, as the reconsideration only applies to some of the many problematic provisions in these rules; and the reconsideration process is an uncertain one. In reality, it is unlikely that all the issues can be addressed.

So our legislation is to help EPA deal with this problem. We create a comprehensive solution not only for EPA but also for boiler owners, and we provide the certainty that this solution will be implemented. It still requires